$241.70 IN SAVINGS
That's the value of the coupons you'll find inside today's paper.

MLK AIDE DIES
Rev. Joseph E. Lowery, known as dean of civil rights movement, dies at 98. A10

GILBERT TRANSFERS
UConn guard Alterique Gilbert is transferring to Wichita State. E1

RAINY 5/6
Periods of rain and drizzle; high of 48. A2

Hartford Courant

VOLUME CLXXXIV NUMBER 89 COURANT.COM SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

TRUMP: NO QUARANTINE

Plan for Conn., NY, NJ meets resistance; CDC issues domestic travel advisory for the states

BY NICHOLAS RONDINONE AND DAVE ALTIMARI

President Donald Trump decided against issuing an enforceable quarantine of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut after it was met with resistance Saturday from state leaders, who said they have already instituted strong measures to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Then late Saturday, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued an advisory urging residents of Connecticut, New York and New Jersey to hold off on any nonessential domestic travel for the next 14 days. The advisory, which was effective immediately, did not extend to those working in critical infrastructure, such as truckers or public health professionals.

Trump's decision against a quarantine, announced in a tweet about 8:20 p.m., followed a midday comment to reporters that he was considering quarantining the tri-state region that he called a "hot spot" for the virus. He did not speak to the governors about the possibility of a quarantine before speaking about it publicly earlier Saturday.

"On the recommendation of the White House Corona Virus Task Force, and upon consultation with the Governor's of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, I have asked the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention] to issue a strong Travel Advisory, to be administered by the Governors, in consultation with the Federal Government," Trump said in the tweet. "A quarantine will not be necessary."

Trump's announcement came several hours after Connecticut officials confirmed Saturday that the state has now had 1,524 confirmed cases of COVID-19, along with 205 hospitalizations and 33 deaths from the

Turn to ***Virus, Page A5***

The day's events

- President Trump decides against issuing an enforceable quarantine of New York, New Jersey and part of Connecticut after earlier surprising the governors by suggesting the possibility.
- CDC issues domestic travel advisory for New York, New Jersey and Connecticut late Saturday.
- Confirmed cases in Connecticut up to 1,524 with 33 deaths as of Saturday evening.
- A 35-year-old from Wolcott is the state's youngest confirmed death from COVID-19. **B1**
- Reader resources: Answers to frequently asked COVID-19 questions, a look at workers' rights amid a pandemic and a list of state companies that are hiring. **B4-B5**

COURTESY OF CHERRY BROOK HEALTH CARE CENTER

Wally Dixon, left, visits with his wife, Dot, who surprised him at Cherry Brook Health Care Center with an "I Love You" message when she could no longer visit him inside the nursing home.

GETTING CREATIVE TO STAY CONNECTED

Families find ways to show love to isolated nursing home residents

BY LEEANNE GRIFFIN

When Connecticut's Department of Health recently directed nursing homes to restrict visitors amid coronavirus concerns, it meant Dot Dixon couldn't easily see her husband of nearly 64 years. The 85-year-old Farmington resident normally visits her 90-year-old spouse at Cherry Brook Health Care Center in Canton every other day.

"The week was going by and I couldn't go see him," Dixon said. "I'm getting very sad and very lonely and just very confused with the whole situation. So I said, 'I've got to make myself happy.' I want to tell him I love him."

Using nine colored sheets of 8x11 paper, Dixon spelled out "I LOVE YOU!" and arranged to tape the paper

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KASSI JACKSON/HARTFORD COURANT

Katie LaPierre visits her grandpa Joe LaPierre, 77, through his window Tuesday at Stonebrook Village in Windsor Locks. Katie and her family decorated his window, including with a firetruck. Joe is a former Windsor Locks fire chief.

The mental health toll of isolation

MIKE ANTHONY
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At this point in a world of strange limitations, one hour kind of bleeds into the next, one day strangely merges with another and we're all just here, planted, eating, sleeping, hopefully working and repeating within the constricting walls of our homes and a new reality.

So I'm not sure exactly when a heavy, and temporary, sense of dread swept over me recently, causing my fiancee to look over and say, "What's wrong?" I'm also not sure exactly what was bothering me when I replied, "I'm just not OK," because the ups and downs are a little more frequent lately, and the changes in mood are slightly more sensitive to triggers that are both painfully obvious and frustratingly subtle.

I'm just not rolling with the punches very well.

Not as well as I usually do, anyway.

With that in mind, I contacted a mental health professional — not for therapy, but

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World is digging in for the long haul

Cases top 650,000; US leads countries in reported infections

BY GEIR MOULSON AND MATT SEDENSKY
Associated Press

BERLIN — The number of confirmed coronavirus infections worldwide topped 650,000 Saturday as new cases stacked up quickly in Europe and the United States and officials dug in for a long fight against the pandemic.

The latest landmark came two days after the world passed 500,000 infections, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University, showing that much work remains to be done to slow the spread of the virus. It showed nearly 31,000 deaths.

While the U.S. now leads the world in reported infections — with more than 121,000 cases — five countries exceed its roughly 2,000 deaths: Italy, Spain, China, Iran and France.

"We cannot completely prevent infections at this stage, but we can and must in the immediate future achieve fewer new infections per day, a slower spread," German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who is in quarantine at home after her doctor tested positive for the virus, told her compatriots in an audio message. "That will decide whether our health system can stand up to the

Turn to ***World, Page A6***

EDITOR'S NOTE

Travel coverage on hiatus

With so many of us at home during the coronavirus pandemic, we are temporarily suspending the Sunday Travel section. The puzzles and other features you enjoy in that section can now be found in Sunday Arts. We appreciate your understanding.

OPINION..... C1-C6
OBITS..... B6-B11
LOTTERY..... A2
CLASSIFIED..... D5, D6
PUZZLE..... D6, G5
PUBLIC NOTICES..... D6

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